

**A new species of the genus *Anthrenus* Geoffroy, 1762
(Coleoptera: Dermestidae: Megatominae) from the Republic of Cape Verde**

Andreas HERRMANN¹⁾ & Jiří HÁVA^{2,3)}

¹⁾Bremervörder Strasse 123, 21682 Stade, Germany
e-mail: herrmann@coleopterologie.de

²⁾Department of Forest Protection and GM, Faculty of Forestry and Wood Sciences,
Czech University of Life Sciences

Kamýcká 1176, CZ-165 21, Prague 6 - Suchbát, Czech Republic

³⁾Private Entomological Laboratory & Collection,
Rýznerova 37/37, CZ-252 62 Únětice u Prahy, Prague-west, Czech Republic
Email: jh.dermestidae@volny.cz

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Abstract. *Anthrenus (Nathrenus) strakai* sp. nov. from the Republic of Cape Verde is described, illustrated and compared with the similar looking species *Anthrenus (Nathrenus) molitor* Aubé, 1850 and *Anthrenus (Nathrenus) signatus* Erichson, 1846 both from the Mediterranean region.

INTRODUCTION

When identifying some dermestids collected by the Czech entomologists Jan Batelka and Jakub Straka in the Cape Verde Islands from flowers (*Tornabenea* sp. and *Euphorbia tuckeyana*), a so far undescribed species of the genus *Anthrenus* Geoffroy was detected. This species has been represented by a single specimen only and belongs to the subgenus *Nathrenus* Casey, which currently includes 64 valid species worldwide. The subgenus *Nathrenus* can be distinguished from the other subgenera of the genus *Anthrenus* by an 11-segmented antenna in combination with the inner margin of the eyes being not emarginated on the frons.

The dermestid fauna of Cape Verde is quite poor as reported by Kalík (1986); a few additional records were published by Geisthardt (1986, 1988) and Geisthardt & Herrmann (2005).

MATERIAL AND METHODS

Only a single specimen of the new species could be examined, the holotype. The terminology used in this paper follows Lawrence and Ślipiński (2010).

The following abbreviations of measurements were used:

EW elytral width = maximum elytral width

TL total length = distance from anterior margin of pronotum to apex of elytra

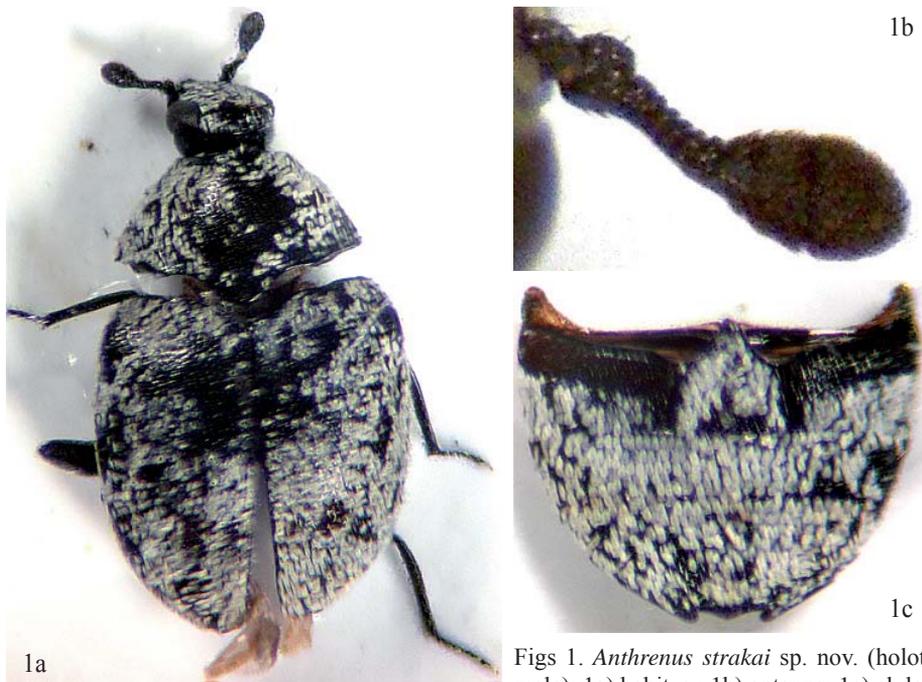
DESCRIPTION

Anthrenus (Nathrenus) strakai sp. nov.

(Figs 1 a-c, 2a)

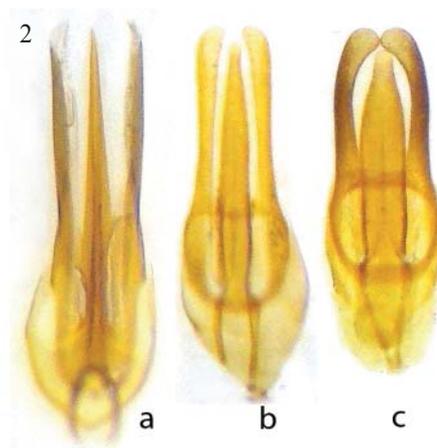
Type material. Holotype (♂): “CAPE VERDE Isl., SAO NICOLAU, E, Tope de Chuva, 10.xi.2011, 16°36'6.05”N, 24°7'26.8W, J. Batelka & J. Straka lgt.”. The specimen is going to be stored in the collection of the SMNS (Staatliches Museum für Naturkunde Stuttgart, Germany).

Description. Body measurements in mm: TL 1.7, EW 1.1. Body shiny black, oval. Dorsal surface covered with whitish scales (Fig. 1a). Head as broad as long, between eyes and antennae densely and coarsely punctate, covered with broad, whitish scales. Palpi darkish, one ocellus present on front. Antennae 11-segmented, entirely black; the 3-segmented club is clearly distinct, ovate and much broader than the other antennomeres, it is approximately as long as the shaft, all three segments are covered by fine procumbent pubescence. The size of the three club segments increases towards the last segment (Fig. 1b). The antennomeres of the shaft are sparsely provided with short, strong and erect dark hairs. Pronotum covered with broad whitish scales, shiny black, four times as wide as long, narrowed anteriorly, broadest at the apical part, densely and coarsely punctate on the disk. Cuticle between the punctuation shiny. Posterior angles almost rectangular and with distinct edge, not completely visible from above; anterior angles obtusely angled and not visible from above. Elytra with dense and coarse punctuation, the distance between the punctures smaller than the puncture diameter.



Figs 1. *Anthrenus strakai* sp. nov. (holotypus, male): 1a) habitus ; 1b) antenna; 1c) abdomen

Figs 2. Male genitalia: 2a) *Anthrenus strakai* sp. nov. ;
2b) *Anthrenus signatus*; 2c) *Anthrenus molitor*.



Cuticle shiny and entirely black, covered with broad, whitish scales. Scutellum very small and triangular, with the same pubescence and punctures as the elytra. Punctuation and scales of the underside (mesosternum, metasternum and abdominal sternites) similar to those on the disk of elytra and pronotum. Legs and tarsi entirely black. Tibiae almost twice as long as the tarsi, sparsely provided with decumbent, short, dark hairs. Male genitalia as in Fig. 2a.

Female and variation unknown.

Remark. The specimen has already been in bad condition when receiving it for examination; it was disintegrated into several pieces during the necessary procedure to separate the genitalia. Afterwards it has been restored as far as possible.

Differential diagnosis. The new species can be distinguished from the related *Anthrenus molitor* Aubé, 1850 and *Anthrenus signatus* Erichson, 1846 based on the characteristics outlined in the table below:

	<i>A. strakai</i> sp. nov.	<i>A. signatus</i>	<i>A. molitor</i>
Antenna	Entirely black, with ovate club	Entirely reddish brown, with longish oval club	Entirely darkish brown, with longish oval club
Body size (TL)	1.7 mm	More than 2 mm	More than 2 mm
Male genitalia	Aedeagus and parameres very straight, conspicuously long and narrow (as shown in fig. 2a)	Aedeagus and parameres less narrow (as shown in fig. 2b)	Aedeagus and parameres broad and bent towards the end (as shown in fig. 2c)

Name derivation. The name is dedicated to the entomologist Jakub Straka from the Charles University in Prague/Czech Republic who collected the specimen. He is a leading specialist in taxonomy and bionomics of Aculeata hymenopterans and their parasites.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS. We are deeply indebted to Jan Batelka and Jakub Straka from Czech Republic generously sparing their material.

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